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[Reports to the Supervising Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

REPORTS FROM THE MEXICAN BORDER.

El Paso, Tex., July 29, 1899.—I have the honor to report that no passengers have arrived during the past week from Tampico or Vera Cruz except such as were not subject to detention, the ten days time having elapsed, and their baggage having had the label "Inspected."

Three Mexicans arrived on the Mexican Central Railroad from the City of Mexico on their way to Lower California (Mexican territory). They had no certificates, but their hotel bills showed that they had been in the City of Mexico fifteen days previous to their arrival here. Their baggage was inspected. * * *

Respectfully, yours,

E. ALEXANDER,
Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

Laredo, Tex., July 30, 1899.—I have the honor to make the following report. Inspection at the international foot and tramway bridge for week ended July 15: Refused entry, 13; allowed entry without detention, 3,177. For week ended July 22: Refused entry, 6; allowed entry without detention, 3,709. For week ended July 29: Refused entry, 11; allowed entry without detention, 4,794. The above figures include persons from American side coming from Mexico, and the increase was due to a celebration on the Mexican side of the frontier. Persons refused entry are persons coming from Monterey or beyond that point and unable to give evidence of their whereabouts for the previous ten days. One party was from Tampico, and is now in detention on the Mexican side. I allow no baggage or bedding to cross at this bridge unless I personally inspect it and am satisfied of noninfection.

The Mexican National Railroad bridge report is as follows since last report: July 22, disinfected all baggage and wearing apparel of a person who had had smallpox in May and June. July 23, refused entry to person from City of Mexico. July 24, refused entry to a man from Acambaro, Mexico, noninfected. These were railroad men out of employment without any baggage and with no evidence of where they had recently been. One of these men disappeared from Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, and I have failed to find out whether he went back into Mexico or crossed the frontier in some small boat at night. He did not leave Laredo, Tex., on any passenger train, as I inspect the only two trains leaving daily, for the purpose of seeing that persons I am holding across the border do not leave here in that manner. This is one disadvantage of not having a detention camp on the American side, where those in detention are under guard. The man who disappeared boarded train and claimed to have been residing at Acambaro, Mexico, a place noninfected and on this side of the City of Mexico, but he had no evidence with him and no money with which to telegraph for evidence. Officers of railroad company tell me that he very likely went back into Mexico on some freight train, as many of them leave at night.

To-morrow I will send a report of passengers entered here on the railroad for the months of June and July.

I am to receive a list of all persons arriving at Tampico daily, sent by the United States consul there.

Respectfully, yours,

H. J. HAMILTON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

Laredo, Tex., August 3.—I have the honor to submit the following report of persons entering the United States via Mexican National Railroad for month of June, 1899: From City of Mexico, 234; from San Luis Potosi, 48; from Saltillo, 30; from Monterey, 226; from other points, 80; total, 618. Persons from City of Mexico include places beyond that point.

The following number was inspected and entered at this port via Mexican National Railroad for the month of July, 1899: From City of Mexico, 162; from San Luis Potosi, 46; from Saltillo, 38; from Monterey, 210; from other points, 83; total entered, 539. Persons registered from the City of Mexico include persons from beyond that point.

Respectfully, yours,

H. J. HAMILTON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.